



Decorah Public
Opinion
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108 *Great Places' forum Wednesday, June 22*

The state of Iowa has started a statewide initiative from the Vilsack-Pederson Administration to make the places of Iowa into great places.

The concept is to pool the resources available at the state level to "promote bold thought, innovation and entrepreneurship to cultivate the unique and authentic qualities that make places in Iowa so special."

As part of the initial pilot program, three places will be selected by a Citizen Advisory Board based on seven different aspects: "A Unique Sense of Place," "Engaging Experiences, A Rich Social Fabric," "A Vital Economy," "A Pleasing Environment," "A Strong Foundation and A Creative Culture."

The Decorah Area Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Winneshiek County Economic Development and Winneshiek County Convention and Visi-

tors Bureau, is sponsoring an open forum to discuss topics and ideas that will help this area become a "great place."

The discussion is open to the public and will take place Wednesday, June 22, at 7 p.m. in the lower level meeting room of Decorah Public Library. All are welcome to attend and share any projects or ideas from around the area. Great Places is not limited to single communities, projects or organizations and encourages the use of broad, innovative thinking.

Information from this forum will be compiled and submitted as part of the application process for consideration into the pilot program.

For more information on this and other programs through the Decorah Area Chamber of Commerce, call (563) 382-3990.